

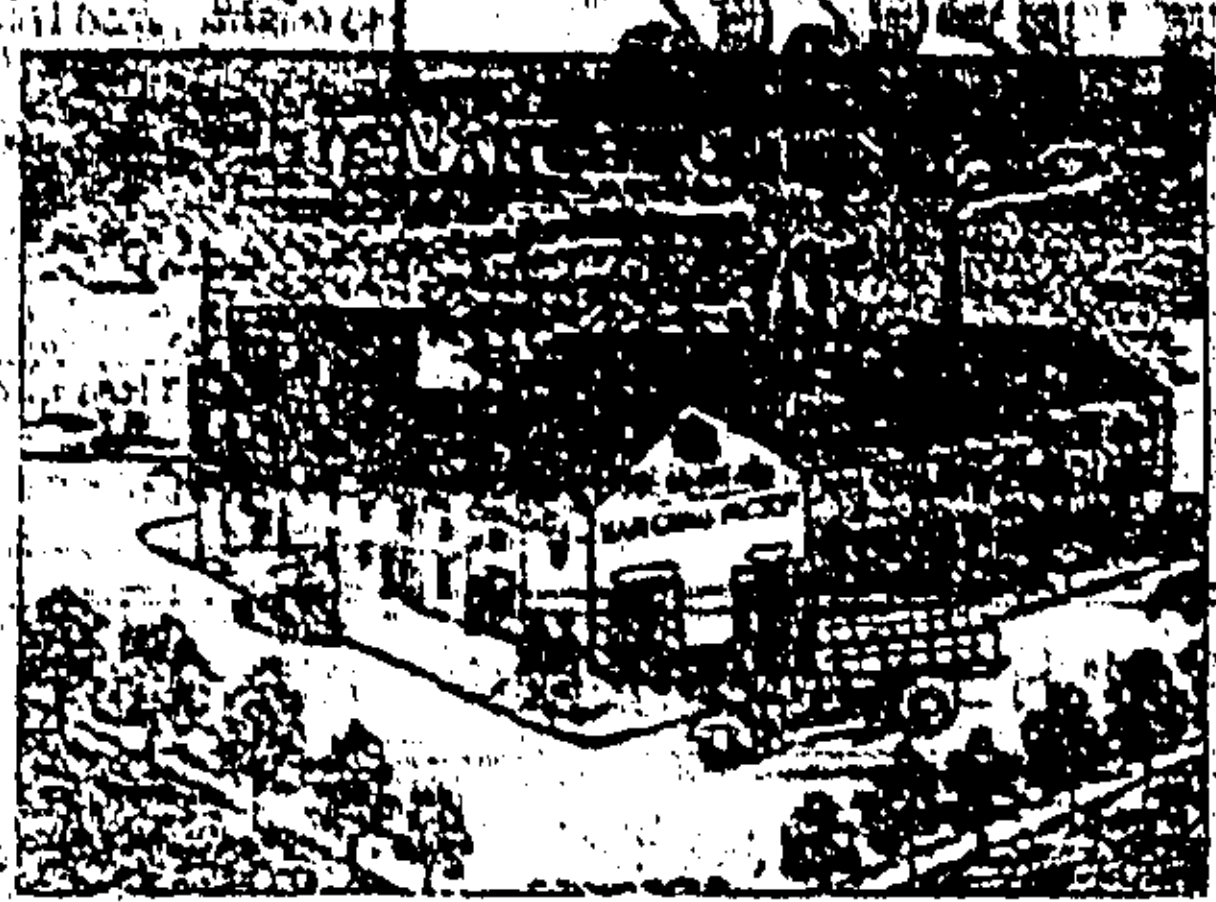


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ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH.

INDUCTION OF THE NEW CHAPLAIN.

The members of the St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, gathered in fairly large numbers in the Church Hall yesterday to bid welcome to the Rev. G. R. Lindsay, M.A., the new Pastor, and Mrs. Lindsay, who arrived in the Colony yesterday on the s.s. *Empress of Russia*. The new chaplain is a young man. Born in Liverpool, he was educated at St. Catharine's, Cambridge. After he had obtained his degree, he was in charge of St. John's Church, Waterloo, Liverpool. This is his first visit to the East.

The Bishop of Victoria (Hongkong), Archdeacon Barnett, the Revs. Copley Moyle, Shann, Hewitt, and Stewart, Sir Paul Chater, Mr. Ralph Packham, Mr. J. J. Robson, Dr. J. T. Smalley, Mr. G. Martin, Mr. B. E. Fielder and a large number of ladies were present at a reception arranged by Mrs. Raiton and several other ladies of the congregation to enable members to become acquainted with the new chaplain and his wife. A pleasant half an hour was spent, both Mr. Lindsay and his wife creating a very good impression. At the conclusion of the reception, the Bishop said, he would like to take the opportunity of thanking Mrs. Raiton and the other ladies who helped to organise that delightful reception to Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay. The ladies of St. Andrew's Church and the congregation were always to the fore on such occasions, and he was sure that all present thanked them. He reminded them that Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay would be very exceptional people if they remembered, by name, all those present there. He, therefore, hoped that the members of the congregation would not lose the opportunity of making themselves better known to the new Chaplain and his wife.

The gathering then adjourned to the Church, where the Bishop, assisted by the other clergymen present, conducted the induction service. The Rev. George Reginald Lindsay was conducted into the Church by the two wardens, Messrs. R. Packham and J. J. Robson. The Rev. C. B. Shann read the lesson for the day, and after the chanting of Psalms 128 and 127, the new Chaplain was conducted to the altar by the Wardens. Mr. Packham announced that the Rev. Mr. Lindsay having been nominated to St. Andrew's, desired induction; he read a certificate from four clergymen in Liverpool stating that, to the best of their knowledge, the Rev. Mr. Lindsay had lived piously, soberly and honestly for the past three years and they considered him a fit candidate for the chaplaincy of St. Andrew's.

The Rev. Mr. Lindsay then took the oath of canonical obedience to the Bishop of Victoria and, having signed the Thirty-nine Articles and the Book of Common Prayer, was formally given, by the Bishop, his licence to officiate as Chaplain of St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, in the diocese of Victoria. The new Chaplain was then given actual charge of the Church and its appurtenances during a procession led by the Bishop, who was followed by Messrs. Packham and Robson, Archdeacon Barnett making up the rear. The Bishop then delivered an address. He said, *inter alia*, that they had been taking part in a very interesting service, following the English custom for the institution and induction of a new incumbent. The conditions here, in Hongkong, were not the same as in England, but there was the same pastoral responsibility for those who lived on that side of the Harbour, and belonged, or ought to belong, to the Church. The Vestry had appointed the Chaplain; the Vestry was appointed by the people; therefore, really, the people appointed the Chaplain. They were a very democratic people there, and very rightly so, and it was only after much thought and deliberation and prayer that they had selected the Rev. G. R. Lindsay to be their Chaplain. The appointment, the Bishop said, was deeply interesting to him, for he was one of the links with the past of the new incumbent. In the Bishop's very first curacy, he baptised the Rev. Mr. Lindsay many years ago and when Mr. Lindsay was ordained, Mr. Lindsay's first curacy was in that very Church where he had been baptised and where the Bishop had ministered. The Bishop had watched Mr. Lindsay's career carefully, and he thought that the people of Kowloon had made a very wise choice, and he was glad to extend a very cordial and hearty welcome to the new Chaplain. There was a great opportunity for work in Kowloon; the work had its difficulties, and sometimes, its discouragements, but the Bishop was sure that the new Chaplain would not be discouraged, but that he would remember that God had sent him here. The Bishop asked the members of the Church to support the new Chaplain with their prayers and their encouragement.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

TRADE REPORT.

EXPORTS.

Rice.—There has been some activity in our market during the past week, and prices have hardened a little. The demand was principally for shipment to Cuban ports.

Tonkin rice can now be freely exported, and several boats have been fixed to bring up the new rice from Haiphong. The rumour referred to in our last report regarding an absolute embargo on exports from Siam has, unfortunately, proved to be true.

The Saigon authorities will allow rice to be exported on condition that foreign buyers pay for one-fifth of the value of the goods in hard cash, viz. in silver or gold coins.

The American rice crop for 1914 has been provisionally estimated at 887,000 tons as compared with the final estimate of 810,000 tons for 1913 and the five years' average 1913/1917 of 817,000. It has been reported that there has been a heavy rain-fall in the Southern rice States, in consequence of which both the quality and the quantity of the crop are likely to suffer.

Our market closes steady at the following rates:—

Siam garden rice, \$18.50 nominal.
Siam straight rice, \$15.75 nominal.
Siam usual rice, \$14.50 (old crop).
Saigon long rice, \$14 (old crop).
Saigon round rice \$13.75 (old crop).
See Mu rice (white) \$15.75.
Lard—About 5/6,000 cases of "old line" have been placed for Jan./Feb. shipment at \$33.50, and the market closes firm at this price. "New tins" can be had at about \$34.35.

ANISSED OIL, 15deg.—A small business has been done at \$12.50.

CASSIA OIL is neglected. 75/80 per cent. at \$22.00; 80/85 per cent. at \$34.1.

WOOD OIL is quiet at \$27.50.

TEA OIL—Numerous offers were made to the London and other European markets on the basis of \$27.50, but so far no business has resulted.

PEANUT OIL—There is nothing doing. Quotations:—No. 1 at \$28 and No. 2 at \$27.

TIN is quoted as follows:—99 per cent. at \$70.50, 98 per cent. at \$74.50, and 96 per cent. at \$71.00. A small business is reported in the 99 per cent. quality.

SAGO OIL, 4/10/4 assortment, is quiet at \$24.

STANDARDISED—Dealers are still asking \$25.50 per picul but no fresh business of any importance has been recorded.

GALANETS can be placed at \$42 per picul.

GALANGAL is quoted at \$5 without finding buyers.

CASSIA BUDS—A small lot has been placed at about \$18.50 per picul.

Continuing, the Bishop said that the Gospel for this week contained a splendid pattern for every pastor—John the Baptist. John had lived at the end of one age and the beginning of another, and he had to make a way for the new age that was coming. That was very much the position of the Church of God to-day. Great changes were being introduced at home and those changes were gradually reaching us here. The old order of things was passing and new valuations were coming into the Church. There was to be a great levelling up, and it was the business of the pastor to give out a message for the new times. John the Baptist performed no miracles. He had his faults and his failings, his discouragements, and once, he even doubted his Master. Nevertheless, he did a tremendous work, and long after he was dead there were found men who had been won to Christ through him. It was his character that moved the people.

The speaker went on to say that his message to Mr. Lindsay was that he would accomplish more by his personal influence than by tussling activity. He would work, and would deliver it to them as they liked it or not. The life of John the Baptist was marked by self-sacrifice. They needed to live simpler lives in Hongkong; when prosperity shone upon them, they were inclined to be too luxurious, inclined to leave all they had to do to be done by their Chinese servants, and themselves live a life of luxury and ease. They must eliminate from their lives that love of pre-eminence, that jealousy and touchiness, and their lives must be one of self-sacrifice. If the new pastor would teach them to pray, he would do much to spread the Kingdom of God. The most important thing the Rev. Mr. Lindsay could do was to keep open the avenue of his own soul to God; he would then get his message direct from God and they would take knowledge of him that he had been in communion with the Father.

At the conclusion of the service, the Rev. Mr. Lindsay said that he would get his first opportunity of addressing them at the 11 a.m. service on Christmas Day and he would be glad if they would fill the Church. There would also be a celebration of the Holy Communion at 4.15 a.m., to which all were invited.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

SPORTS.

GO AS YOU PLEASE RACE.

INTERESTING SPORTING EVENT AT KOWLOON.

A five-mile walk or run race in connection with the Club de Recreio's Sports Section was held on December 21st. There were twenty-six entries, but only sixteen faced the starter. The route was from the Club de Recreio, along Nathan Road, Middle Road, Chatham Road, Kowloon City Road, then first turning to Coronation Road, Nathan Road and finishing at the Club de Recreio.

H. Prata, a very promising athlete, ran the race in splendid style, finishing first in the good time of 35 minutes. Paulo Xavier was a very good second, negotiating the distance in 36 minutes. J. Lima, the walking match winner, was third, his time being 38 minutes. J. Ribeiro was fourth, time 40 minutes.

Handsome cups were given away as prizes. The first was presented by the Club, the second by Mr. J. M. C. Basto, and the third by the Club. Besides the awards for individual efforts, a team prize consisting of four cups was presented by Mr. E. J. Noronha to encourage collective work, with the result that great interest was taken by the competitors and the finishes were keen up to the last man.

Team "C," comprising the following won the team prize: J. Lima, 3; J. Ribeiro, 4; E. P. Sousa, 5; F. H. Carvalho, 8; total count 20. Team "B" was second with a count of 24 made up of the following: H. Prata, 1; P. Xavier, 2; C. E. Marques, 10; L. B. Gomes, 11.

A fairly large number of spectators followed the competitors, including nearly fifty cyclists. Mr. E. V. M. R. de Sousa, patron of the section, followed the competitors in his car. The officials were Judges:—E. J. Noronha, Philip Roza, P. O. Roza and V. L. Remedios. Referees:—P. A. Yvanovich, A. A. Gutierrez and J. M. J. Lopes.

CRICKET.

GARRISON CRICKET LEAGUE.

R.E. DEFEAT THE WILTS.

The first match in the Garrison Cricket League took place at Happy Valley, on Wednesday last, between the Royal Engineers and the Left Half Battalion Wiltshire Regt., resulting in a win for the Royal Engineers. Scores:—

WILTSHIRE.	
Major Timmis, c Edwards, b White	11
Lieut. Beaven, b Hammond	18
Major Culver, b Edwards	14
Sergt. Holdman, b Edwards	0
Capt. Hooper, c Heath, b Edwards	49
Pte. Purton, st., Clauson, b Hammond	0
Pte. Harris, b Hammond	6
Pte. Pinchin, b Hammond	0
Pte. Graham, b Edwards	4
Lieut. Larkom, not out	0
Pte. Bates, c Heath, b Hammond	0
Extras	8
Total	110

Bowling Analysis.	
Hammond	14 4 30 5
White	12 3 23 1
Edwards	14 3 27 3

ROYAL ENGINEERS.	
Major Edwards, c and b Harris	63
C.S.M. Heath, b Harris	15
Lieut.-Col. Taylor, c and b Purton	68
Lieut. Hammond, c Holdman, b Harris	2
Q.M.S. White, not out	80
Lieut. Larkom, not out	10
Extras	0
Total (for 4 wickets)	178

Bowling Analysis.	
Purton	10 0 68 1
Harris	8 2 35 3

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RESULT OF YESTERDAY'S DRAW.

Two ponies which arrived in the Colony yesterday on the *Sinkiang* were drawn for at the Jockey Club Stables last evening, with the following result:—

1—Gray Mr. Wagon.

2—Bay Sir Paul Chater.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

UNITED SERVICES LEAGUE.

A meeting of the United Services Football League was held in Victoria Barracks last night. There was a good attendance, a pleasing feature being the large number of Navy representatives present. Master Gunner G. T. May was elected chairman.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

H.K.D.C. RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP.

WON BY CORPORAL GRIMES.

The annual shoot for the Hongkong Defence Corps Rifle Championship took place at King's Park, on Sunday, and ended in a win for Corporal Grimes who beat Lee-Corpl. Goodman, last year's winner, by three points.

The weather conditions of Sunday were anything but favourable, a "fish tail" wind giving some trouble. Grimes and Goodman kept together and with the last shot at 500 Goodman scored a magpie and Grimes an outer, giving the former a lead of three points. Moving back to the 600 yards mark, Grimes put up a bull with his sighter, his first shot to count being an inner. He then put on six bulls. Goodman put on an outer and from then scored alternate bulls and inners.

At the conclusion of the shooting Major-General F. Vengris congratulated the winner and expressed the hope that more competitions would be held in connection with the new corps.

Corporal Grimes, in reply, conveyed the assurance that as far as he was concerned there would be. He was sure that all the competitors would continue to serve in the corps.

The shooting was watched by Major Wakeman, Capt. Stewart and others.

The results were as follows:—

	300	500	600	
Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Total.
Corpl. Grimes	23	23	34	80
Lieut. Corpl. Goodman	24	29	28	81
Sergt. Manuk	33	25	23	81
Sergt. Frith	28	27	27	82
Pte. Gibson	31	25	24	80
Corpl. Lyon	28	28	24	80

DIVORCE FOR LOQUACITY.

JUDGE'S COMMENT ON A CURIOUS EASTERN CUSTOM.

Interesting sidelights on the divorce laws of the United States and other countries were given at the Devon Assizes by an American barrister, who was called as a witness in a bigamy case.

"If a man instituted divorce proceedings in New Jersey," he said, "and it was found he had committed a divorce offence, he could not succeed in his action." Most of the marriages in New Jersey take place in private houses, and very few in churches. Living together is considered a valid marriage without any ceremony.

"Millions of emigrants from all parts of Europe have entered the country, and they have brought their own ideas of divorce. It is not generally known that although the United States of America has so many grounds for divorce, there is not a single one which has not been in operation in some part of Europe.

"We do not yet in America agree as far as Belgium and Hungary in agreeing to divorce by mutual consent. In Greece, I believe, a woman can be divorced if she attends a race meeting without her husband's permission, while in Formosa a husband can put his wife away for loquacity."

Mr. Justice Darling: "That is better grounds than most."

GERMAN CRIMINALS.

The extradition of more German officers for crimes committed in the liberated regions has been demanded by the Second Court-martial at Lille. A terrible charge has been formulated against Evers, who was chief of the Kommandantur at Le Cateau, and was a magistrate at Hanover. Evers presided at a court-martial before which five British soldiers, who had concealed themselves at Villers, had appeared.

He condemned them to death, and, with unspeakable cruelty, made them carry their coffins to the place where they had to be executed.

Another German wanted is Dr. Schottlander, who is accused of having murdered Charlotte Evers, a servant at Amelien, by shooting her with a revolver. It is alleged against Lieutenant Benash, a second officer, that he gave certain orders to Leon Eloy, a schoolmaster, and that when they were not executed with sufficient promptitude he shot the man. It is a particularly grave charge that is made against Dr. Elich, of Barmen. He is alleged to have made certain proposals to a girl, and when she rejected them he shot her.

Commander Kilgour, R.N., and Major Timmis, 2nd Wiltshire, were elected to the chairmanship of the League. Master Gunner May, was elected Hon. Secretary.

The following entries were accepted:—H.M.S. *Tamar*, H.M.S. *Alacrity*, H.M.S. *Amphion* (3 teams), H.M.S. *Caroline*, 2nd Wiltshire, and R.G.A. It is expected that the R.E. and Staff and Departments will enter a team, but they were not represented. It was decided to ask for the Club ground once a week to play off the fixtures.

It was decided that the League appoint a separate referees-board to deal with cases in the U.S. League only. The following were elected:—Major Timmis, Mr. Skinner, H.M.S. *Caroline*, and Mr. Birkenhead (Hon. Secretary of the Board).

A meeting will be held on Monday next to arrange the League fixtures. It was decided that, if the Clubs play home and away matches, the entrance fee remain at \$10, but if the teams only meet once the entrance fee be \$10.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS

[BEFORE HIS HONOUR THE CHIEF JUSTICE, MR. WILLIAM REES DAVIES, K.C.]

THE CHEUNG CHAU ISLAND MURDER

The Tui Shing was indicted for the murder of Yun Miu on Cheung Chau Island on November 2nd.

The Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, K.C., C.B.E., Attorney-General, prosecuted, and Mr. F. C. Jenkins, C.B.E., instructed by Mr. Guy Haywood, defended.

The following jury was empanelled: Messrs. J. McCubbin, H. C. Best, D. Abbey, U. H. da Silva, K. Sayce, A. Germann, and J. C. Clark.

Mr. Kemp said that the case was a short and simple one. The deceased woman was sleeping in her house on the night of November 1st. The other occupants of the house were the deceased woman's mother, and 3 children. The husband of the deceased woman sometimes slept in the house and sometimes on the ferry launch on which he was employed. On the night in question he did not sleep in the house. The occupants went to bed as usual, and in the early morning of November 2nd, the mother was awakened by cries of "Save life" from her daughter. The mother got up and saw two men in the house, coming from the direction of the cubicle in which the daughter slept. She herself then called out "Save life," and one of the two men rushed up to her and cut her on the neck with a knife. Both the men then opened the front door and left the house. The mother, who was cut on the neck, was the principal witness in the case. She would say that she knew her assailant very well by sight and had seen him frequently—he was the prisoner. After the men had run away, the mother found her daughter's throat cut. The husband was informed of the tragedy and reported the matter to the Police, who arrested the prisoner.

His Lordship asked whether the daughter was dead when the mother saw her.

Mr. Kemp said he was not sure. She was dead by the time the Police came on the scene.

Mr. Kemp, continuing, said that the prisoner was arrested the same morning, in a matted chow, and under his bed was found a chopper, which instrument it was alleged, was used by the prisoner. When charged with the offence at the Police Station, the prisoner merely said "I did not do it. I do not know." Before the Magistrate, however, the prisoner made a long statement. He said: "I cannot remember the exact day. One day a friend, named Lai Cheung, asked me to go with him to a cake-seller's to steal cakes and satisfy our hunger. He said 'Better bring a knife for self-defence.' I said 'It was no use taking a knife. We are not going to steal clothes or goods or jewellery.' He said 'Better take one.' He took a knife. I took the one in Court. He was the smaller one. He went inside the cubicle. I do not know what he was doing. I waited outside. I heard a voice crying out within the cubicle and the old lady making the alarm. I did as I was told and threatened the old lady. I cut her in the neck. Lai Cheung opened the door and we went out."

The Attorney-General submitted that, on the facts the prisoner was guilty of murder—though he might not have done it himself—by helping the other man to carry out his designs.

The jury brought in a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to death.

AN ABSENT JUROR FINED.

At the Criminal Sessions yesterday, Mr. W. M. Routh, of Messrs. Connell Brothers, failed to answer when his name was called for the jury. He was sent for and when he later appeared he was asked by the Chief Justice to explain his absence.

Mr. Routh stated that he had that morning received an important business cable and in attending to it he had overlooked the time.

His Lordship: That is no excuse. You were summoned here to day, and as a result of your not appearing some other gentleman has had to serve.

Mr. Routh: I am very sorry. I am the only foreigner in our firm. Of course that may not be an excuse in your eyes, but I was busy and quite overlooked the fact.

His Lordship: A summons of the Court is issued to be obeyed. I understand it is inconvenient to you.

Mr. Routh: I intended to be here at 10.30, but I forgot.

His Lordship: If the Court overlooks the absence of jurors on the grounds of business and so forth, it will be quite impossible to carry on the administration of justice satisfactorily. You will pay a fine of \$10.

MOTOR BANDITS IN COURT

ARRESTS AT THE TEA SHOP

The Magistrate was uncomfortably crowded yesterday, when the hearing was continued in Mr. J. R. Wood's Court, of the case in which Lin Sui Ping, Na Wai and Chuan Sing are charged with (1) armed robbery in No. 40, Des Voeux Road on November 28th, and stealing \$3,700; (2) with killing P.C. 606, Lang Pui; (3) with killing Lau Choi; (4) with killing Wo Chuk; (5) with shooting at P.C. Bess Kheer Deen, with intent to murder; (6) with shooting at P.C. 48, King Yau, with intent to murder; (7) with shooting at L.S.A. 113, A. Clark, with intent to murder; (8) with wounding P.C. 43, Li King Yau.

Mr. Leo Longinotto, Assistant Crown Solicitor, prosecuted.

Ho Hung, chief Chinese detective, in his previous evidence had stated that at 1.30 p.m., while he was in Graham Street, he received certain information and proceeded directly to No. 40, Des Voeux Road West in a ricksha. When he arrived there he was told that the robbers had escaped by motor-car. He told C.C.s 48 and 606 to go to Kennedy Town, and then, getting further assistance, he himself proceeded to Kennedy Town. Finding no signs of the robbers there, he and the others returned to Catchick Street, where there was a tea-house. He told Ali, Sergeant Clark, to remain on guard at the side door leading up to the first floor of the tea-house. Witness proceeded to the first floor with C.C. 211, C.C. 48, C.C. 284, and C.C. 606. Witness led the way into the room, followed by the others. There was a door communicating with the verandah, and at the corner of it the three prisoners were seated at a table drinking tea.

Continuing, his evidence yesterday, witness said that there was nobody else sitting at the same table, which was to the west of the room. As soon as witness saw them, he went right up to the table, with four constables who were following him, and said: "We are detectives, we want to search you." The first prisoner asked: "Why do you want to search us for?" Witness searched him and found a revolver on him. He next found several rolls of silver coin in the prisoner's pockets. Witness arrested him and asked the other constables to seize the remaining two men. The revolver (produced) was the one found. C.C. 48 arrested the second prisoner. The third prisoner crawled on his hands and knees and managed to escape. When nearing the door, the third prisoner turned round and pointing a revolver, fired three shots in witness' direction. Witness was standing near a door at the further end of the room. The first shot whizzed past his right arm. The second shot struck C.C. 48, and the third shot went wide off the mark. After C.C. 48 was hit in the arm, the second prisoner released himself and ran away. C.C. 211 fired a shot at the second and third prisoners who were escaping by means of the staircase. The shot, however, missed the mark and the prisoners ran away. C.C. 606 ran after them. Witness heard four shots fired. Witness then asked C.C. 211 to help him with the first prisoner, and took the revolver from the latter. Seven chambers of the revolver were loaded. Prisoner was then taken downstairs and on the way he saw C.C. 606 sitting at the bottom of the staircase. He said "I have been shot in the arm and abdomen." Witness immediately blew a police-whistle. About four or five minutes later two constables arrived. Witness told them to take C.C. 606 to hospital. C.C. 606 was then taken in a ricksha to the Government Civil Hospital. Witness then saw Sergeant Field coming up. He informed Sergeant Field that the robbers had gone up in the direction of Smithfield. The first prisoner was then taken to No. 7 Police Station. At 3.15 p.m. witness saw Sergeant Field and a party of detectives bringing the second and third prisoners to the station. At 4.30 p.m., in the presence of Inspector Grant, witness searched the first prisoner. He found \$28.40 in money in his pockets, also sixteen rounds of ammunition. At 6 p.m. witness took prisoners to the Government Civil Hospital, where an identification parade was held before C.C. 606.

Third prisoner: I did not fire at all while I was in the tea-house. Witness: Yes, you shot C.C. 48. One shot passed nearly overhead.

Third prisoner: As I was coming downstairs, I was seized by a European. My revolver dropped down.

C.C. 211 corroborated the Chief Chinese detective's statement, and C.C. 48 gave evidence as to how he was shot at in the tea-house.

The second prisoner said there were three other men in the tea-house, two of whom were armed with automatic pistols.

A Chinese cook at the restaurant said that on November 28th, he was preparing some macaroni at the back of the shop. He saw five men enter the shop. There were five customers in the tea-shop at the time. He could only see part of the verandah. Two were sitting at one table and three at another. As soon as the table came the three men ran to the balcony and then he heard shots being fired.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned till this afternoon.

FIRE AT JERVOIS STREET

DAMAGE OVER \$100,000.

Damage to the extent of over \$100,000, was caused by an outbreak of fire at the junction of Jervois Street and Bonham Strand on Sunday morning.

The fire originated in the cook-house of No. 34, Bonham Strand, but the cause is not known. The flames increased in volume and leaping through the air-shafts reached the first and second floors of the building. In a short while the whole house was gutted. The fire brigade plied thirteen hoses from different angles on the burning building without success. The back portion of the second floor collapsed and the fire spread to No. 36, an adjoining house, which was partly gutted. The buildings were used for the storage of foreign medicines. The damage to one house, covered by insurance in four companies, is estimated at \$75,000. The damage to the second house, which was also insured, is estimated at \$27,500.

In connection with this fire, it was stated in yesterday's issue that, on receipt of another fire alarm, all the firemen left the place and hastened to the scene of the other fire. As a matter of fact, a number of European firemen, including Chief Inspector Kerr, remained in Jervois Street, while the rest of the fire brigade went to Chung Sai Street where the other fire had broken out.

ALLEGED THIEF'S MISFORTUNE.

FALLS FROM WALL.

A Chinese, who, it was alleged, attempted to break into No. 169, Wanchoi Road, occupied by Mr. Smith of the Hongkong Electric Company, had the misfortune to fall off the wall. The incident was related yesterday, as the Magistrate where the man was charged with attempting to break into the house. Mr. Smith stated that he was at dinner with his family on Sunday evening when the man informed him that a man had fallen off the wall and into the clothes boiler, smashing it up. Witness went out and noticed the defendant disappearing through the gates in the backyard. After a long chase, witness, assisted by a constable, arrested the man, who had been evidently trying to effect an entrance into the house through the bath-room window, which was three feet away from the wall. Witness found a cane, to which a knife had been attached. He also noticed a hole in the wall, presumably made by the defendant in his attempt to get in.

The man said that she was cleaning up the backyard when she heard a dull thud. She looked round and saw the defendant lying on the ground, with the boiler smashed up by his side. Witness told the man "you have broken the boiler and you must pay for it." The man did not reply.

Defendant said that he went to the house to see a friend.

A witness, called by the defence, said: "I don't know this man's friends. He has his friends, I have mine."

Mr. Wood remanded the case till to-day to enable the defendant to produce other witnesses.

INDIAN MATRIMONIAL SUIT

AMICABLY SETTLED.

At the Magistrate's yesterday, the hearing was concluded of the case in which an Indian lady summoned her husband, who is employed in the Army Transport Office, for desertion and failing to support her.

Inspector Kent, who was asked by the Magistrate to act as mediator, reported the success of his mission. "I had both parties before me," he said. "The husband made a direct offer to his wife that if she wished she could come back and live with him and his mother. The wife absolutely refused to do that. As an alternative, I suggested a sum of money. At first the wife would not accept the monetary offer, but later she agreed to accept \$25 a month and the custody of the children."

Mr. Wood informed the wife that the husband had not refused to support her. The husband had laid down certain conditions which were not satisfactory to her, but he was willing to make provision for her. The Magistrate said that the husband had offered to pay her \$25 a month and leave her free to live wherever she liked with the charge of the children. That seemed to him reasonable. The wife could accept if she liked. The complainant replied that she was willing to accept the offer.

Mr. Wood: No order will be made. The summons is dismissed.

THIEVES ENTER NEWSPAPER OFFICE.

ONE CAUGHT AND IMPRISONED.

At the Magistrate's yesterday, a Chinese was charged with unlawfully breaking into the premises of the "South China Morning Post."

A witness stated that the offices were usually closed at 4 p.m., on Saturday. He went for his dinner and on his return opened the door and switched on the lights. He then noticed two men hiding behind the counter. They threatened to kill him if he made a noise. Witness struggled with one, and the other, in escaping, smashed up a glass show case. The Police arrived and arrested the man he had seized.

Sergeant Jackson produced a rope which he found tied to the water pipe on the roof of the premises.

Defendant said that he went to the office at 3 p.m. to see a classman. When he wanted to leave, he found the premises closed, so he remained there thinking to get out the next morning.

Mr. Hutchison sentenced defendant to six weeks' hard labour.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

LECTURE AT THEATRE ROYAL.

An interesting lecture on Christian Science was delivered at the Theatre Royal yesterday by Dr. Walton Hubbard.

Mr. D. G. M. Bernard presided, and, in introducing the lecturer, said: It was in the year 1851 that Mrs. Eddy discovered Christian Science. During the time that has elapsed since that date the movement has spread to practically every quarter of the globe. There are now some 87 churches and societies in England, which is about double the number ten years ago. The increasing interest in the subject is chiefly due to its efficiency in healing sin and disease of every nature. People, for the most part, turn to it for relief only after other systems have failed, and the fact that Christian Science is able to produce satisfactory results in such cases is added testimony to its healing power. It is essentially a practical religion and the beauty of its teachings is that they can be demonstrated by any sincere student to the extent that he understands them. The purpose of the lecture this afternoon is to present the subject correctly and to bear witness to the facts regarding the life and work of its discoverer and founder, Mary Baker Eddy. Dr. Hubbard, the lecturer, is a member of the Board of Lectureship of The First Church of Christ Scientist, Boston, Massachusetts, and, after many years devoted to the study and practice of Christian Science is well qualified to give you a clear exposition of its teachings. He is here this afternoon at the request of First Church of Christ Scientist, Hongkong.

Dr. Walton Hubbard said: The explanation of God's law and its available ability to all mankind was taught and demonstrated by Jesus the Christ, but for many centuries it has been maintained that the major portion of the reward for Christian living is to come at some future time. The wisdom of this world has failed not only to heal from disease and sin but to reach the treatment of disease until it is recognized that sickness is sick thought expressed on the body, and that sick thought is cast out through spiritual understanding. When human thought is filled with fear and belief in disease, no human statement to the contrary will suffice, and the thought which goals must be so evidently the divine idea, that it comes to human consciousness, as the very voice of God to destroy and dispel the error. Such a system is Christian Science and it only asks to be known by its fruits.

The revelation came to Mrs. Eddy because the particular qualities of thought which the processes made it inevitable. She investigated every material system of healing and finally decided that all cure must be mental, yet it required twenty years of effort before she fully understood that all causation was Mind, God, and a number of years more before it had unfolded with sufficient clarity to be given to the world.

The slightest amount of spiritual understanding put into practice brings forth abundant results, and faith as a grain of mustard seed is sufficient to remove mountains of error. The reasoning of Christian Science brings divine Love close to human experience. The recognition that God is Mind and that man is His perfect idea is the basis for Christian Science healing. When we measure our thoughts by this divine standard and undertake, as far as possible, to entertain only that thought which we know to be of God, the thought which has made us sick or unhappy is eliminated. One after another of the material beliefs which have bound us are annulled through the application of spiritual law, and we are learning that food, or water, or cold, or heat, or dampness, or dust, or contact with our brother man, never had any power to harm us, for the divine idea comes in contact with nothing but that which is harmonious and healthful and manifests only the goodness of God. The divine Principle corrects inharmonious and unsuccessful business conditions, and sorrow and disappointment are removed by the law of Love.

Each inharmonious condition which is overcome through spiritual understanding increases one's consciousness of joy and harmony. Every effort towards spirituality and away from that which is material brings a rich reward. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall bow down to me."

CORRESPONDENCE.

INFANT CHILD LABOUR.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

Sir,—I have just seen a small Chinese girl, age given to me as 9 years (Chinese reckoning)—that is about 8 years old—and not much higher than my walking-stick, carrying 2 baskets of sand that, in my judgment, must have weighed 25 to 28 lbs. It cannot be right, and quite possibly might injure her for life. Surely our British "Hongkong" Government can stop such cruelty by a stroke of the pen!—Yours truly,

J. HERBERT SANDERS, M.D.

Hongkong, December 21st, 1919.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

FURNISHING DEPT.

HIGH CLASS

DRAWING AND DINING ROOM

FURNITURE.

NEW DESIGNS. BEST WORK.

TEAK FURNITURE

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MADE TO ORDER.

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WE EMPLOY A TRAINED STAFF OF UPHOLSTERERS

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GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.

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Put it in your pocket before you start and you will find it is the only typewriter which enables you to do this in hand, weight 11 lb. and stands 14 in. high. A marvel of compactness.

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NEW COLONIAL MODELS

JUST RECEIVED.

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NEW SHIPMENTS

Just received of

GLYN'S

VELOUR HATS

(5 smart shades).

Cambric and Linen

HANDKERCHIEFS

IN FANCY BOXES

PATENT DRESS

PUMPS and LACE OXFORDS

GREY and WHITE SPATS.

All the above are low priced owing to High rate of exchange.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

REPULSE BAY HOTEL.

A BALL will be held on the evening of the 1st of JANUARY, 1920, commencing at 8.15 p.m.
 Tickets including buffet supper can be obtained at the HONGKONG HOTEL Main Office at \$3 per head.
 Dinners will not be served at the REPULSE BAY HOTEL on the Opening Night.
 J. H. TAGGART,
 Manager. [1706]

BANK HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of BUSINESS on THURSDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th, 25th and 26th.
 Hongkong, December 30th, 1919. 1698

G. R. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OFFICE.

NOTICE.
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

THIS DEPARTMENT will be entirely CLOSED on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24th, 1919, and JANUARY 1st, 1920. It will be open for all purposes till noon on FRIDAY, SATURDAY and SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th, 26th and 27th, 1919, and JANUARY 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 1920. Licensed Warehouses will be entirely closed on those dates.
 C. W. BECKWITH,
 Superintendent,
 Imports and Exports.
 Hongkong, December 18th, 1919. [1697]

G. R. NOTICE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that, in consequence of certain public works in progress, that portion of Kutter Street extending from POUND LANE to HOSPITAL ROAD will be CLOSED from DECEMBER 30th until further notice.
 Director of Public Works.
 Public Works Department.
 Hongkong, December 18th, 1919. [1696]

G. R. SALE BY TENDER OF H.M.S. "HYDRANGEA."

TENDERS are invited for the purchase of the above named ship with Engines and Boilers and various auxiliary machinery on board.
 Full particulars of the Ship and conditions of sale may be obtained on application to the undersigned, or to the British Naval Agent at Shanghai or to the British Naval General Staff Officer at Singapore. Permits to view the Ship and forms of tender on application only to the undersigned.
 A deposit is required before forms of tender can be issued.
 The vessel will be on view from the first to the 31st January, 1920, inclusive between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and tenders must reach the Commodore's Office, Hongkong, not later than 12 Noon on MONDAY, February 16th, 1920.
 Length between Perpendiculars 255ft 5in.
 Breadth, extreme 33ft 7in.
 Depth in hold (Flat Keel to Upper Deck) 18ft 6in.
 Nominal Displacement 1,250 tons.
 Propelling Machinery: Triple expansion, three cylinders, vertical, inverted, surface condensing, single screw, of I.H.P. 3,938.
 Boilers: 3 No. Cylindrical, return tube, Bowden forced draught.
 The Ship was built at Scotstoun, Glasgow, Scotland, in 1916 by Messrs. C. CONNELL & Co., Ltd.; the Machinery and Boilers by Messrs. DAVID ROWAN & Co.
 H. G. LOWE,
 NAVAL STORES OFFICER,
 Hongkong. [1693]

WANTED.

WANTED—Manchester firm of piece goods merchants and exporters with established connection requires GENTLEMAN to represent them for Hongkong and South China. Must have some experience of piece goods business. Principal of Manchester firm at present in Hongkong early application invited.
 Apply to—
 Box No. 1694.
 Care of "Daily Press" Office. [1694]

PALACE HOTEL, KOWLOON.

Corner of Haiphong & Hankow Roads, Tel. 111.
 TWO Minutes from Ferry and Railway station. This Hotel has just been completely renovated and refurbished is now up-to-date in every respect and under English Management.
 Cuisine under personal supervision of the Proprietor.
 BAR and BILLIARD ROOMS, TERMS MODERATE.
 Special Arrangement for Families on Application to—
 J. H. O'BERRY,
 Proprietor.

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

THE Committee has decided that the following shall be the settlement days for the year 1920:—

Friday, 30th January.
 Friday, 27th February.
 Tuesday, 30th March.
 Thursday, 29th April.
 Friday, 23rd May.
 Tuesday, 29th June.
 Thursday, 29th July.
 Monday, 30th August.
 Wednesday, 28th September.
 Thursday, 29th October.
 Monday, 29th November.
 Thursday, 27th December.
 By order of the Committee,
 W. LOGAN,
 Secretary.
 Hongkong Stock Exchange.
 Hongkong, 31st December, 1919. [1691]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that CERTIFICATE No. 5/NS 5335 dated Hongkong November 8th, 1918 for five shares numbered 25604 to 25608 and 56121 to 56125 inclusive all registered in the name of HO SHUI PO has been LOST or STOLEN, and should this Certificate not be produced to the Bank before the 24th day of DECEMBER, 1919, a new Certificate for the shares will be issued and the aforesaid Certificate No. 5/NS 5335 will be thereafter treated by this Corporation as NULL and VOID.
 By Order of the Court of Directors,
 N. J. STARR,
 Chief Manager.
 Hongkong, November 26th, 1919. [1575]

HONGKONG BOXING ASSOCIATION.

NOVICES' COMPETITION.

ENTRIES are invited for a NOVICES' COMPETITION (all Weights) to be held on or about the 10th day of JANUARY, 1920, to be conducted under the supervision of the National Sporting Club, subject to such variations therein as may be made by the Boxing Committee of the above Association.
 Weight to be N.S.C. Standard Weights.
 Entries will not be accepted from any man who has taken any Open Novices' Competition, or (b) taken part in any Contest or in any Open Competition other than one for Novices.
 Entries must be made at or before Noon on Wednesday, December 24th and be addressed to the undersigned.
 J. C. WILDIN,
 Manager.
 C/o Imports & Exports Office,
 Hongkong. [1677]

TO LET.
 NO. 5, MOSQUE TERRACE, Ground Floor. Two Large Rooms and 3 Small Rooms. Full view of harbour. Immediate possession.
 Apply—
 Post Office Box 570.
 [1700]

TO LET.
 SUITABLE FOR COAL STORAGE.
 A VACANT PLOT of Land at Yummei.
 Apply to—
 THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION CO., LTD. [1417]

TO LET.
 A VACANT PLOT of Land, Praya East.
 Apply to—
 THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. [1335]

TO LET.
 FURNISHED, No. 87, THE PRAY (No. 1, Stewart Terrace) containing 3 Bedrooms and Bathrooms, hot and cold water, Drying Room, Dining Room, Drawing Room, Sitting Room and usual Offices, also Large Garden.
 Apply to—
 HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.,
 Alexandra Buildings. [51]

FOR SALE.
 A well-built SIX-ROOMED EUROPEAN HOUSE on Conduit Road, prominent position with garden, site area 10,000 feet.
 Further particulars on application to—
 Care of "Daily Press" Office. [1695]

FOR SALE.
 "MOUNT GOUGH" No. 121, THE PRAY. 4-Roomed House with Large Garden.
 Apply—
 LOXLEY & CO.,
 York Buildings. [1255]

MINING.

FOR SALE or Supply under contract:—
 BISMUTH & WOLFAM ORE.
 Price very moderate.
 For particulars apply to—
 FO. SHING CHONG CO.,
 124, Des Vaux Road West [1614]

INTIMATIONS

NOTICE.

REDUCTION IN PRICE OF GAS.

ON and from the 1st JANUARY, 1920, the Price of GAS will be Reduced from \$2.50 to \$2.40 per 1,000 cubic feet.
 GEORGE CURRY,
 Local Secretary.
 HONGKONG & CHINA GAS CO., LTD.
 Hongkong, December 16th, 1919. [1688]

NOTICE.

TO ALL WHOM it may concern: I SAMUEL JOHN CLAYES at present residing at the Hongkong Hotel, Pedder Street, Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong, hereby give Notice that I have expressly withdrawn all and every authority which my wife Gladys Arlene Clayes may have at any time, either expressly or by implication or otherwise, acquired to contract for me or in my name or as my agent or in any way to pledge my credit—I having expressly forbidden her so to do and she being sufficiently supplied with all necessary and that I will not be responsible for her debts whatsoever or howsoever incurred.
 Dated this 17th day of December, 1919.
 S. J. CLAYES
 [1683]

NOTICE.

REPULSE BAY HOTEL.

IN Order to enable the Contractors to complete the work in connection with the above Hotel at the earliest possible date without interruption, and in order to avoid all possibility of damage to the Flooring, Tiles, Paint Work, etc., the public are requested to kindly abstain from visiting the Hotel as on and from this date until its completion and formal opening of which due Notice will be given by Advertisement in the Local Newspapers.
 The Management of the Hotel feel sure that they may rely upon the ready co-operation of the public in the foregoing regard.
 Dated this Sixth day of November, 1919.
 For THE HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LTD.,
 Proprietors of the REPULSE BAY HOTEL,
 J. H. TAGGART,
 Manager. [1683]

A. G. DA ROCHA.
IS THE AUCTIONEER.A. G. DA ROCHA,
AUCTIONEER, SUBVEYOR AND GENERAL BROKER.

Queen's Road Central, Telephone No. 3988.
 FAVOURED with instructions from The Conserved will sell by Public Auction, TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), December 24th, 1919, at 11 a.m.,
 at his Sales Room,
 A QUANTITY OF
 XMAS TOYS and 600 lbs. best guaranteed mixed Chocolate in fancy boxes.
 Terms:—Cash on delivery.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S. M. H. NEMAZER.
 FROM BOMBAY AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamer

"INNAMINCKA"
 having arrived from the above ports. Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence and/or from the Wharves, delivery may be obtained.
 Goods not cleared by December 27th, will be subject to rent.
 All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godown where they will be examined. Claims against the Steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival otherwise they will not be recognized.
 No Fire Insurance will be effected in any case whatever.
 Bills of Lading will be counter-signed by H. M. H. NEMAZER, Agent.
 Hongkong, December 20th, 1919. [1701]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
FROM KOBE

THE Steamer

"CHAKSANG"

having arrived from the above port. Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence and/or from the Wharves, delivery may be obtained.
 Goods not cleared by Dec. 31st, will be subject to rent.
 All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godown where they will be examined. Claims against the Steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival otherwise they will not be recognized.
 No Fire Insurance will be effected in any case whatever.
 Bills of Lading will be counter-signed by JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers.
 Hongkong, December 27th, 1919. [1681]

INTIMATION

WINES & SPIRITS

ASSORTED CASES FOR XMAS.

Case No. 1—\$22.

1 Bot. St. Estephe Claret.
 1 Bot. Light Dry Sherry.
 1 Bot. Brandy Superior Pale.
 1 Bot. "M" Whisky.
 1 Bot. Spey Royal Whisky.

Case No. 2—\$28.

1 Bot. St. Marcoux Champagne.
 1 Bot. St. Estephe Claret.
 1 Bot. Light Dry Sherry.
 1 Bot. Old Tawny Port.
 1 Bot. Brandy Superior Pale.
 1 Bot. "M" Whisky.
 1 Bot. Dewars White Label Whisky.
 1 Bot. Spey Royal Whisky.
 1 Bot. Gin.
 1 Bot. Orange Brandy, M.B.R.

Case No. 3—\$32.

1 Bot. St. Marcoux Champagne.
 1 Bot. Very Pale Dry Sherry.
 1 Bot. D. Port.
 1 Bot. Estrella Port.
 1 Bot. "M" Brandy.
 1 Bot. "M" Brandy.
 1 Bot. "M" Whisky.
 1 Bot. Dewars White Label Whisky.
 1 Bot. Spey Royal Whisky.
 1 Bot. Apricot Brandy M.B.R.

SPECIAL CASES PUT UP TO ORDER.

A. S. WATSON & CO.
LIMITED.

TEL. 618

MARRIAGE.

FORREST—VALENTINE.—At the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on December 18th, by the Dean, Rev. A. J. Walker, M.A., COLIN MURRAY FORREST, to FLORENCE MARY, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Valentine, of Shanghai.

DEATH.

TOOME—At Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, on December 15th, EMMA RUTH, dearly beloved wife of Aubrey A. G. Toome.

WORKING OFFICE: 10A, DES Vaux ROAD, C.
 LONDON OFFICE: 121, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 30th, 1919.

BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

Speculation has been rife as to the real object of the meeting of the Allied Ministers in London. At the time that M. Clemenceau was on his way to the Conference, political writers in Paris hinted at an alliance between Great Britain and France. This idea was obviously prompted by the new conditions arising from the dispatch of the Allies' Note to Germany and the withdrawal of the American delegation from the Supreme Council. Mr. Lloyd George has now made public the subjects discussed at the Conference. They related to the late of Hungary and Turkey, the situation in the Adriatic, and other questions which the Supreme Council had before it in Paris. The financial situation in Europe, also, occupied attention. The PRIME MINISTER does not make any allusion to an alliance or treaty, in the old sense of the term, between Great Britain and France. M. Clemenceau's invitation to the American Ambassador in London to participate in the proceedings, and the presence of the Italian Foreign Minister and the Japanese Ambassador further tend to dispel any notion of a formal pact having been entered into by Great Britain and France. The relations between the two Powers have been so strengthened by the war that they need no such adventitious aid. Questions have arisen since the Armistice that in bygone days would have imposed a severe strain upon the friendship of the two countries, but, thanks to the close

understanding created by the common dangers and sacrifices of the past five years, they have been settled without difficulty. The Syrian problem and the distribution of enemy ships are two cases in point. Before the war they would probably have occasioned grave anxiety, but, owing to the complete absence of suspicion or distrust on both sides, there was never any doubt as to the successful issue of the negotiations. There is, happily, a union of hearts; nothing more is necessary, and nothing less would be of much value. It may be questioned, indeed, whether any of the Allies would be acting wisely if they were to enter into alliances at this stage, lest by splitting up into groups, as it were, they should seem to imply a lack of confidence in the League of Nations. While there is nothing inherently wrong in two Powers linking themselves together in defence of their common interests—more especially now that the Covenant of the League provides that all international agreements should be made public—there is the danger, by so doing, of alarming other countries unnecessarily. These considerations would, probably, suffice to deter Mr. Lloyd George and M. Clemenceau from proposing a formal alliance, even if they considered such an undertaking desirable on other grounds. The fortunes of Britain and France are intertwined by the conditions prevailing in Europe; it is not too much to say that the fate of the Continent depends very largely upon the close co-operation of the two nations. Indeed, their partnership has been described as "the chief deciding influence in the remaining task of European settlement." They have already had to respond to the appeal of Austria for aid, and they have also to assist the new nations in Europe which are under their fostering care. In addition, they "have to set their own houses in order. With Austria starving, Germany crippled, and Poland, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria destitute of funds, it would be nothing short of a calamity if any untoward incident were to cause Britain and France to drift apart. Fortunately, the tendency is in a diametrically opposite direction. The conference in London will have a salutary influence upon the political condition in Europe by furnishing a convincing proof of the falseness of the reports circulated by the Bolsheviks that Anglo-French relations are "frigid" and that "the old jealousy" still survives between Great Britain and the United States. The Conference holds out promises of even more permanent good than this. It will exert a stabilizing influence on the money market, and remove the present deadlock. With Britain and France united, a way will be found to counteract the economic evils arising out of the war and to revive industry. Judging from the arrangements made for the flotation of a French loan in England, Mr. Lloyd George and M. Clemenceau have agreed upon a concerted plan for improving exchange and defeating the machinations of unscrupulous financiers. At the present moment it is money more than military measures which interests Great Britain and France.

His Excellency the Governor was the guest at dinner on Saturday evening of Lieut.-Col. J. R. Wyndham and the Officers of the 2nd Battalion the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire) Regiment at Murray Barracks.
 Information has reached Hongkong that Miss Enid Cooper, daughter of Lieut. Cooper, who was formerly stationed in Hongkong, attached to the Middlesex Regiment, has scored a great success in a prominent part in one of the latest London Alhambra revues.
 Captain R. A. Williams, M.C., R.E., of the Electricity Department, Shanghai Municipal Council, returned to the Settlement with his bride (the daughter of Brigadier-General Baker Brown, C.B., R.E., formerly of Hongkong) on the steamer *Tairenia*.
 The annual ball of the Club Lusitano, which was interrupted last year owing to the assassination of President Sidonio Pais, will be held this year, as in former years, on December 31st. By kind permission, the Orchestra of the 2nd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment will provide the music.
 Capt. A. J. Anderson, R.E., and Lieut. Chapman, have returned to Shanghai after a lengthy period of war service in Mesopotamia. Capt. Anderson saw three and a half years service with the British Forces, and was mentioned in despatches by General Maude on November 2nd, 1917.

The Catholic Union Club entertained, at a Christmas tea, the poor of the different Catholic Parishes in the Colony on Sunday. The hall of the Club was tastefully decorated, and the tables were sumptuously laid out. Music was provided by members of the Club. The waiters were recruited from among the most prominent members who donned Chinese dress for the occasion. Bishop Pozzoni presided. After tea, toys were distributed to the children. The working Committee, particularly Mr. J. D. Osmund, Mr. A. F. Remedios, Mr. M. F. Baptista and Mr. E. Remedios, deserve credit for the arrangements.

The Schools' Football Season will close on January 14th, and H.E. the Governor has kindly consented to be present on that date and witness the Junior final between Wantai and Queen's College on the ground of the latter. This match will be followed by an exhibition game, St. Joseph's v. The Rest, after which the trophies and medals will be presented to the League champions (Senior and Junior) by His Excellency, Mr. F. Black, Captain of the English team on the 27th December, will officiate as referee in both matches. Both the Junior finalists have gone through the League so far unbeaten, and, as teams play each other only once, they have not met so far. St. Joseph's are unbeaten champions this season in the Senior League.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council will be held in the Council Chamber to-day at 12 noon.
 ORDERS OF THE DAY.
 First reading of a Bill intituled An Ordinance to repeal the Military Service Ordinance, 1917, and the General Military Ordinance, 1918.
 Notice has given of the following questions:

PAY AND ORGANISATION OF POLICE.

By the Hon. Mr. Johnston:—

- 1.—Will the Government give any information regarding the present dispute concerning the pay of certain recently arrived Europeans for the Police Force?
- 2.—In view of the recent armed robberies and acts of violence committed in the heart of the City, do the Government consider the present Police Force (including the recently joined members) of sufficient strength to adequately deal with same either (1) by increasing the number on point duty or (2) patrol duty?
- 3.—If, as seems reasonable in view of recent events, the reply to question No. 2 is in the negative, will the Government give any information regarding the steps to be taken, or which have already been taken, to increase the numbers of the European Police Force?
- 4.—In view of the greatly increased cost of living in this Colony, as elsewhere in the world, will the Government consider the advisability of a substantial increase in the pay of the N.C.O.'s and men on the European Branch of the Force?
- 5.—What would an increase of 30% on these men's salaries cost the Government?
- 6.—If the reply to question No. 4 is in the negative, will the Government consent to the formation of a committee to enquire into the matter, and?
- 7.—Will they appoint as members of that committee two or more civilians whose knowledge of the position by reason of their employment of considerable numbers of European workers best fits them to give authoritative advice on the subject?
- 8.—It is proposed to take this Bill through all its stages at this meeting.

CABLES.

LATEST CABLES.

"THE GERMAN GAME."

**BOLSHEVISTS SOWING DISSEN-
SION AMONG THE ALLIES.**

PARIS, December 18th.

A Havas message says:—
The Bolsheviks are playing the German game—trying to divide the Allies. Proof of this is found in the appearance, in a Moscow official paper, of a statement asserting that a new war is brewing between America and Japan, that Anglo-French relations are frigid, and that the big jealousy between America and Great Britain still exists.

Paris circles state that such Bolshevik assertions are totally devoid of any foundation.

AMERICA AND THE TREATY.

APPEAL BY FRENCH NEWS-
PAPERS.

PARIS, December 17th.

A Havas message says:—
Important French papers contain leading articles making an eloquent appeal to the United States to ratify the Peace Treaty before Christmas.

RUSSIAN ROUBLE NOTES.

POSSESSION PROHIBITED IN
INDIA.

DELHI, December 18th.

A new Ordinance prohibits possession of Russian rouble notes. The penalty is a maximum of three years' imprisonment and a fine and confiscation.

THE CLEMENCEAU CABINET.

MAY RETIRE EARLY IN THE
NEW YEAR.

PARIS, December 17th.

A Havas message says:—
There does not appear to be any truth in the rumours of changes in the Clemenceau Cabinet.

The Cabinet has to vote on certain financial laws before New Year.

The rumour concerning the retirement of the whole Cabinet after the vote on the financial laws is likely to be nearer the truth.

DISTURBANCES IN
PONDICHERY.

SOME EXCITING SCENES.

LONDON, December 18th.

A Bombay message reports, exciting scenes in Pondicherry in connection with the election of a Parliamentary Deputy. When the ballot boxes were being collected, a crowd attacked the Police, who were ordered to fire. Five were killed and several injured. Many arrests were made. Arms were found in the houses of the men arrested.

ESPIONAGE LAW IN THE
U.S.A.

I.W.W. MEMBERS IMPRISONED.

KANSAS CITY, December 18th.

Thirty-two members of the Industrial Workers' World have been sentenced to prison for periods ranging from 3 to 93 years for violating the espionage law.

ECONOMY IN FRANCE.

INLAND LETTER POSTAGE TO BE
RAISED.

PARIS, December 18th.

A Havas message says:—
One of the possible measures tending towards economy in France may be the raising of the inland letter rate from 15 to 20 centimes.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN.

ON A VISIT TO PARIS.

PARIS, December 17th.

A Havas message says:—
The Queen of Spain, who is staying in Paris, went to an opera. The programme included the presentation of the new opera "Goyescas" by the late Senor Granados, who died when the *Suez* was torpedoed.

BELGIUM.

MILITARY AGREEMENTS WITH
BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

PARIS, December 18th.

A Havas message says:—
The Executive Council of the Belgian Committee on National Policy has adopted a resolution asking the Government to take the initiative for the conclusion of Franco-Belgian and Anglo-Belgian Military Agreements.

EARLIER CABLES.

ABANDONMENT OF NEUTRALITY.

BRUSSELS, December 18th.

The Independence Belge declares that Belgium has formally abandoned her neutrality, which she no longer desires to retain.

LATEST CABLES.

THE ALLIES AND GERMANY.

AGREEMENT WILL SOON BE
REACHED.

PARIS, December 18th.

A Havas message says:—
The impression continues to prevail in Paris circles that the negotiations will soon end in an agreement which will permit the signing of the protocol, thus settling the Scapa Flow question.

Judging from the declarations of the German representatives, it is foreseen that the arrangements concerning the measures for the transmission of powers in the territories to be evacuated can be rapidly concluded. Thus, no obstacle will remain to prevent the exchange of ratifications, which will mark the entrance of the Treaty into force.

THE FINAL ALLIED NOTE.

PARIS, December 17th.

A Havas message says:—
The Supreme Council will meet again on Wednesday, December 17th, to draw up a reply to Germany, containing its decision regarding German observations on the handing over of the steam tug, trawlers and docks demanded. This will doubtless be the last Note to Germany before the exchange of ratifications, which is expected possibly before Christmas, but almost surely before New Year.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMANY'S BREACH OF
ARMISTICE TERMS.

LONDON, December 17th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill announced that all guns and aircraft laid down in the Armistice had not been handed over by Germany, also that an overwhelming proportion of the railway material was still undelivered, the deficiency being 42 locomotives and 4,760 waggons.

AUSTRIA'S PARLOUS
CONDITION.

NO FOOD AFTER JANUARY 31st.

LONDON, December 18th.

In the House of Commons, questioned regarding the economic condition of Austria, Mr. Cecil Harmsworth admitted that unless further arrangements were made there would be no food in Austria after January 31st.

AN APPEAL.

LONDON, December 17th.

A letter, signed by Field Marshal Lord Haig, Lord Horne, Lord Cavan, Mr. Asquith, Lord Robert Cecil and others, appeals for support to the fund for the relief of distress in Vienna, where the lack of food and clothing is causing death and permanent enfeeblement, on an appalling scale. The hospitals are threatened with closing owing to lack of food, fuel and medical stores.

BRITAIN'S HOUSING PROBLEM.

PREMIER ON THE GOVERNMENT'S
DUTY.

LONDON, December 17th.

Addressing a conference of builders called with a view to solving the housing problem, Mr. Lloyd George emphasized that it was the Government's business to render impossible the exploitation of tender needs.

He announced that numbers of young builders were being released from the Army to make up the deficiency in the trade with a view to increasing output.

Mr. Lloyd George said that plans had been prepared for half a million sites for houses. Three hundred thousand such sites had already been purchased. Private builders had secured sites for scores of thousands of houses.

The Government hoped to decentralize building materials in the New Year. Luxury building must be temporarily discouraged. At least 200,000 more building hands were wanted.

FOOD CONTROL AT HOME.

NECESSARY FOR AT LEAST THREE
YEARS.

LONDON, December 17th.

In the House of Commons, the Food Controller said the supervision of food supplies would be necessary for at least three years.

BRITISH COTTON INDUSTRY.

BONUS TO COTTON OPERATIVES.

LONDON, December 17th.

The Federation of Master Cotton Spinners has decided that its members shall distribute bonuses ranging from £3 to £9 in the course of the next three months among 150,000 employees according to ages and sex, involving the disbursement of £2,500,000.

The grant is attributed, primarily, to the unexampled prosperity of the cotton industry.

Two of the leading Operative Unions have decided that the proposals are in every way unsatisfactory and that the offer was prompted by the Unions' steps in that connection.

THE FRENCH LOAN.

NOT TO BE ISSUED BEFORE
MARCH.

PARIS, December 17th.

Le Matin says the French Loan in Britain will not be issued before March.

AVIATION.

IMPORTANT BRITISH GOVERN-
MENT PLANS.

LONDON, December 17th.

During the House of Commons debate on the Air Force Vote, Mr. Churchill said £20,000 had been assigned for accommodation of stations on the aerial route from Egypt to India. This was only a beginning. In connection with the aerodromes required for Cairo, Baghdad and Karachi, which was the most important section of the route from England to Australia, there would probably be eight or nine squadrons distributed between Cairo, Baghdad and Karachi. It would be most convenient to allow civil flying in this section, which would have a most remarkable effect in huddling the Empire together, because of the saving of time in flying to Australia.

BIG BRITISH SCHEMES.

LONDON, December 17th.

Important British airship developments are pending, according to the *Globe*. The aviation firms of Messrs. Vickers, Beardmore and Shorts have practically amalgamated and a number of shipping magnates are associated with them.

It is stated that the famous Trans-Atlantic airship R. 34 and the R. 38, now being constructed in Scotland, will be acquired and altered to carry passengers and cargo.

It is understood that a series of passenger and goods services in Britain and to Scandinavia and Holland will be first organised, after which a demonstration flight from London to Egypt will probably be run.

A weekly airship service to America is also contemplated, but this is unlikely for a considerable time.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

GOING TO AUSTRALIA IN MARCH.

LONDON, December 17th.

The Prince of Wales, presiding at a meeting of the King Edward VII. Hospital Fund, announced that he was going to Australasia, probably in March, and expected to be absent from England for six or seven months.

FILMS OF THE CANADIAN TOUR.

LONDON, December 17th.

The Albert Hall was packed with an enthusiastic audience, their Majesties and other Royalties being present, on the occasion of the first exhibition of films of the Prince of Wales Canadian tour.

The High Commissioner for Canada, presiding, dwelt on the wonderful personality of the Prince and the enormous success of the tour, emphasising the undeviating loyalty of Canada to the Empire and Crown.

PROHIBITION OF IMPORTS.

IMPORTANT HIGH COURT
DECISION.

LONDON, December 17th.

An important decision was given by the High Court to-day. The question was whether the Customs Consolidation Act of 1876, empowering prohibition of importation of arms, ammunition "or any other goods" empowered the Government to exclude all imports.

Mr. Justice Sankey answered the question negatively, holding that the words quoted dealt with goods of the same class as those mentioned. He decided that the Government was not empowered to prohibit certain imports of ordinary peace-time trade and any proclamation purporting to do so was illegal and invalid.

THE "MILITARY REVOLT."

QUESTION IN THE HOUSE OF
COMMONS.

LONDON, December 16th.

In the House of Commons, replying to Sir Donald Maclean, Mr. Montagu said he quite appreciated the profound disturbance of public opinion owing to reports of occurrences at Amritsar, called on December 14th (Chet), but he urged that an impartial and authoritative pronouncement by the Committee of Enquiry should be awaited.

He hoped the Committee's findings would be available without unnecessary delay.

It was most difficult to state the exact casualties, but he looked to the Committee to give authoritative figures.

DISTURBED IRELAND.

WRIT ISSUED AGAINST THE
GOVERNMENT.

LONDON, December 17th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Ian MacPherson announced that the proprietors of *Freeman's Journal* had issued a writ against the Government.

OBITUARY.

ADMIRAL SIR HENRY
STEPHENSON.

LONDON, December 17th.

The death is announced of Admiral Sir Henry Frederick Stephenson, G.C.V.O., who has been Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod since 1904.

FAR EASTERN CABLE
NEWS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

THE BUDGET DEFICIT.

Peking, December 21st.

The Senate has passed the Budget, which shows a deficit of over five million dollars to meet which a Domestic Loan is proposed.

RAILWAY AMALGAMATION.

The Ministry of Communication has issued an order sanctioning the amalgamation of the Peking-Hankow and Peking-Suiyuan Railways to be known as the Kinshankinsui Railway.

EX-PRESIDENT SERIOUSLY ILL.

Feng Kuo-chang, ex-President, is seriously ill.

PROTEST AGAINST AMERICAN
LOAN.

The Peking Wine and Tobacco Association has circulated its members throughout the country to telegraph to the Government a protest against the American Loan.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHINA MAIL"]

JUTE STEAMER AFIRE AT
SHANGHAI.

SHANGHAI, December 20th.

Mysterious fires occurred on the Butterfield & Swire steamer *Foochow* and on the Jardine boat *Fwang*. Jute loaded by Chinese was ignited.

The boats were scheduled to depart for Dairen.

The jute being tightly packed aboard the *Fwang*, there was danger at one time of the boat sinking. She was finally towed and beached.

Investigations are progressing.

INCOME-TAX IN THE STRAITS
SETTLEMENT.

SINGAPORE, December 20th.

The Legislative Council has agreed to make a total contribution to the Imperial Government in 1920 towards the war cost of £1,000,000.

An income-tax bill was read a first time, the rate being the same as the present war-tax on incomes.

ADMIRAL DUFF.

SINGAPORE, December 20th.

Admiral Duff arrived yesterday on an official visit.

BUYING ON CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

SINGAPORE, December 19th.

A wireless message from Christmas Island requests assistance and medical stores. It is believed that riots have occurred there in connection with the food shortage. Necessary action is being taken in Singapore.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

"UPLIFTING THE FAR EAST."

LONDON, December 17th.

Dr. Inazo Nitobe of the University of Kyoto, lectured to the Japan Society on Japanese colonisation. He said he was firmly convinced that Japan was the steward on whom had developed the gigantic task of uplifting the Far East and dwelt on the importance of sympathetic methods in colonization. It would be highly interesting to an English student to watch the development of Korea as a Wales or an Ireland.

TIN MINING IN THE F.M.S.

LONDON, December 19th.

With the object of arousing greater interest in the problem of the application of electrical power to tin-mining, Mr. D. M. Hutchison, Chief Electrical Engineer, F.M.S. Government, and Mr. W. J. Wayne, Messrs. Osborne and Chippell, Perak, F.M.S., recently submitted a joint paper before the Institution of Electrical Engineers on "Electricity in Tin-mining in the Malay States."

The paper pointed out that European-owned mines employed a maximum of machinery and a minimum of labour, while the Chinese mines employed a maximum of labour and a minimum of machinery. Mitsui, under Chinese management in 1918, produced about 70 per cent. of the total output, and as there were under half a dozen electrically-driven Chinese mining plants, there should be great scope for the electrical engineer in the immediate future.

WOMEN IN HONGKONG.

Christmas stockings, Christmas trees,
plum puddings and all the traditional
Christmas perquisites are being collected.
Women search the shops and consult lists,
and children talk audibly in pretended
innocence of what they expect Father
Christmas to bring them and shrug their
little shoulders ironically at the gulli-
bility of the grown-ups, who believe that
they believe in the dear, silly, but very
useful old myth. The great game of
make-believe goes on; goodwill on earth
and loving kindness to each other, on
the surface, and underneath it all, back-
biting and cruel persecution as of old,
since the day of the Crucifixion. Yet
what a beautiful world it would be if
Christians made themselves worthy of the
sacrifice made for them. We cannot
honestly say that we believe the world
to be worse to-day than it was before
Christ, but we cannot believe that it is
any better, or that Christianity and
Christmas mean more than a convenient
superstition to most of us. The reason
seems to be that, for even those who
accept the belief, the rules and principles
are so utterly at variance with worldly
advancement; that it is easier to ignore
them and leave them behind the church
doors after the weekly service and the
annual celebrations of the great days,
such as Christmas, Easter and Good
Friday. The beautiful ideals of Christ are
too unselfish, too pure, for the every-day
life of the average person. This is not
an age in which great attention is paid
to religious matters. Even at the Con-
ference of Bishops in England it was
acknowledged that, if the Church is to
retain its hold upon the imagination and
intelligence of modern thinking people,
it will have to come into line with
modern thought and make a more practical
demand upon its adherents.

In a place like Hongkong one has
more opportunity for thinking out the
subject than in large places, where one
is in constant touch with a variety of
interests and where the lives of one's
neighbors are a sealed book to one.
Here more than in most places, one sees
the wide chasm between precept and
practice.

These thoughts crowd upon one as
the great and wonderful season of peace
and goodwill approaches and one wonders
how many men and women, who kneel in
reverence in their churches on Christmas
Day and New Year's Eve, will come out
realizing just what they have done in
their social and business lives during
the last year to justify their claim to the
fellowship of Christ. These are
rather audacious words, for a scribbler
to write to the women of Hongkong,
or to any other women, but the poorest
scribbler dares greatly and like the fool
of old rushes in where angels fear to
tread. It is the privilege of a scribbler
of the public to refrain from reading
her writing.

While on the subject of religion, I
must say a few words about the Catholic
Women's League, and more especially the
Working League, which has shown such
excellent results during the last few years.
Under the name of the Catholic Women's
Union, this League was started in 1913,
at the request of the Catholic Bishop, who
felt that the energy and industry and
religious ardour of the women in this
island, would be strengthened and im-
proved by co-operation and by meeting as
a society with some object and aim. The
first meeting for the purpose of forming
this Society was held on July 3rd, 1913,
when a prominent Catholic, stationed
here to do military service, delivered an
interesting and inspiring address, as a
result of which a committee was appointed
and a number of ladies banded themselves
to work together for the good of their
Church, their poorer co-religionists and
for mutual improvement and benefit.

A year after the inception of this
Society, the war started and the Working
League, which had been sewing for the
poor, decided to devote its energies to
war work. Lady May supplied the
materials from stocks purchased from
public war charity funds and work
started in earnest. Of this working
party, most of the members were working
girls, who sacrificed their few hours of
leisure and thoroughly enjoyed the
leisurely meetings at the house of their
leader. Tea and refreshments were pro-
vided, and after an afternoon's hard
work, the members about twenty in num-
ber, took work home. Their contributions
were sent weekly to the City Hall, where
a committee of Hongkong ladies packed
and despatched them with contributions
from other sources. Later on, the
Societies all joined up under the auspices
of the Queen Mary Needlework Guild and
the Catholic Women continued to send
in their contribution until the Guild was
demobilized.

Today we have constant appeals for
money or clothing from Mrs. Stubb and
from others on behalf of the Russian
Refugees. I would like to suggest that
an easy and effective means of raising
funds would be a morning tea and cake
and produce sale, at some central place.
Perhaps the Helena May Hall could be
secured. A small collecting and conven-
ing committee would have to be appointed
and ladies would be asked to give either
of the following:—a home-made cake,
some scones, biscuits, shortbread, eggs,
butter, sweets, home-grown vegetables,
bottles of preserves, jams, sweets, etc.
Tea and cake for refreshments would
also be donated. The Hall should be free
of the expenses, thus divided into the
small amounts of cost of the produce to
each individual, should result in a goodly
sum to be placed in Mrs. Stubb's hands
for the purchase of warm clothing for
the unfortunate refugees.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

CANTON NEWS.

DECEMBER 21st.

SEPARATE PEACE PROPOSALS.

In connection with General Luk Wing-ting's peace negotiations with the Peking Government, it is stated that General Luk Wing-ting is to be elected as Vice-President, Shum Chun-huen is to be appointed the Chief Inspector-General of the South-West Provinces, Tam Ho-ming as Inspector-General of Kwangtung, Kwangsi and Hunan, Tong Kai-yue as Inspector-General of Yunnan, Szechuan and Kweichow, Mok Wing-sun as Tichun of Canton, and Chan Ping-kwan as Tichun of Kwangsi, or Assistant to Tam Ho-ming. The leaders Li Kan-puen, Chan Kwang-ming, and others are to be appointed to various positions. A list of the names of many of the politicians has been submitted to the Peking Government for appointment as Civil Governors of the South-West Provinces. A sum of 3 billion dollars has been demanded to be paid to the South as military expenditure. The President recently sent Kung Tin-tok the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce to the South to carry on negotiations with the Southern leaders. Kung Tin-tok is a native of the Kwangtung province, and one of the members of the Canton Parliament.

COMMANDER MA CHAI'S ESCAPE.

Commander Ma Chai, the Superintendent of the Canton Arsenal, has had a narrow escape from an attempt made on his life. Ma was called early in the morning to the yamen, a bomb was thrown at him near the Man Ming-moon gate. Ma was not hurt, but his guards were badly injured. Other reports state that the Commander was slightly wounded.

A revolver was picked up by the police and is supposed to belong to the man who threw the bomb. Ma suspects the outrage to have been instigated by his clansmen as he is to be appointed to the Tichunship.

CHINESE GUNBOATS AT HONGKONG.

Referring to the internment of the gunboats *Kwang Lee*, *Kuo y Kang*, and some others in Hongkong, the British Consul-General has asked the authorities that the expenses incurred by the Hongkong Government on account of the gunboats be refunded. It is stated that about half of the amount is due from the Salt Revenue Bureau as a number of the salt gunboats are among those interned.

THE BOMB OUTRAGE.

December 22nd.

In regard to the attempt made on Commander Ma Chai's life, it is stated that Ma was slightly wounded, as it now appears, shots were fired at him. The bomb was a smoke-bomb, which was used to produce clouds of smoke, to enable the culprit to make good his escape. It was riding on a Mongolian pony when the outrage took place and he was not accompanied by his guards. The policemen on duty rushed to his assistance but were unable to arrest the bomb-thrower.

THANKSGIVING CEREMONY.

The meeting to record an expression of thanks to the United States Senate for passing the Shantung Reservation was held in the Hai Ho Hotel on December 20th. It was largely attended by both Chinese and American residents.

MACAO NOTES.

Messages from Macao state that the markets there are very dull. More than half of the number of the butcheries have been closed on account of bankruptcy. It is reported that a large number of Indian soldiers are expected to arrive in Macao shortly.

The construction of a road for motor-car traffic between Macao and Chinshui, in the Hengsham district, is to be commenced. The road will be about 40 miles long and will be ready for traffic within 3 months.

MOTOR-BOAT INCIDENT.

A fire occurred on a motor-boat, which runs between the ports on the East River, the other day, and the boat was destroyed but the crews and the passengers escaped unhurt.

This last week has been rather exciting locally. We have had a terrible tragedy at the prison. Two lives were lost, and the community as a whole was in a state of nervousness owing to the fact that dangerous and desperate criminals were at large. While they feared they were indignant at the commiseration of the wretched prisoners. How could they help laughing and child of the murdered widow when the road that, though a key was lost by an Indian warder in April last, no situation was made in the locks concerned. What would one think of a house-keeper who left her stores to the mercy of any one who found or stole her key?

There is also grim humor in the idea of unlighted corridors in a criminal Asylum. The grille which was designed to keep prison walls from being scaled, provided the means of escape for the prisoners. There were lots of other funny things, and one wonders if the Colonial Office will laugh when the report goes home or whether someone will get a wiggling.

Just one little question before I lay aside my pen for another week. Why do not the women who live on the Peak arrange their morning shopping, golf, tennis, at such hours as not to interfere with the luncheon hour? Our men-folk have only a very brief interval for going home to luncheon, and it is no uncommon sight to see the cars from 12.45 to 1.15 p.m. crowded with women, while the men wait for a later car. It

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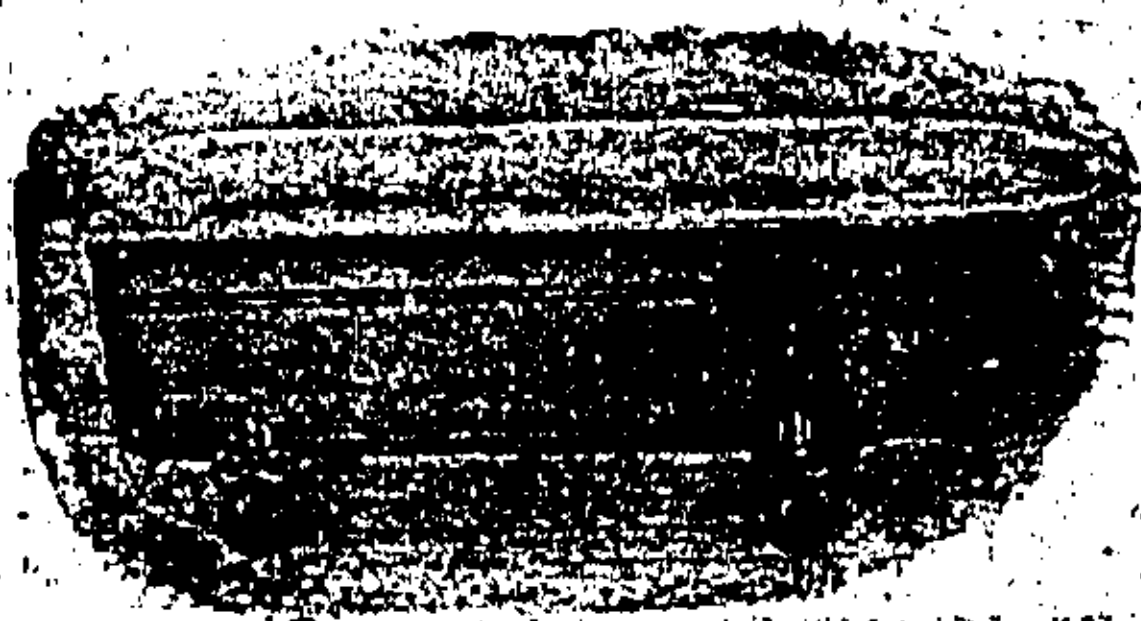
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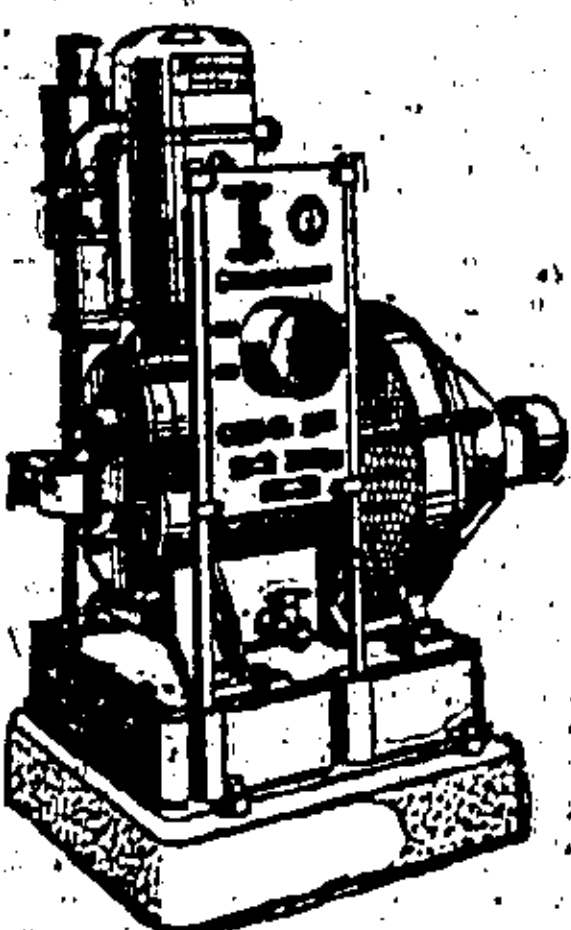
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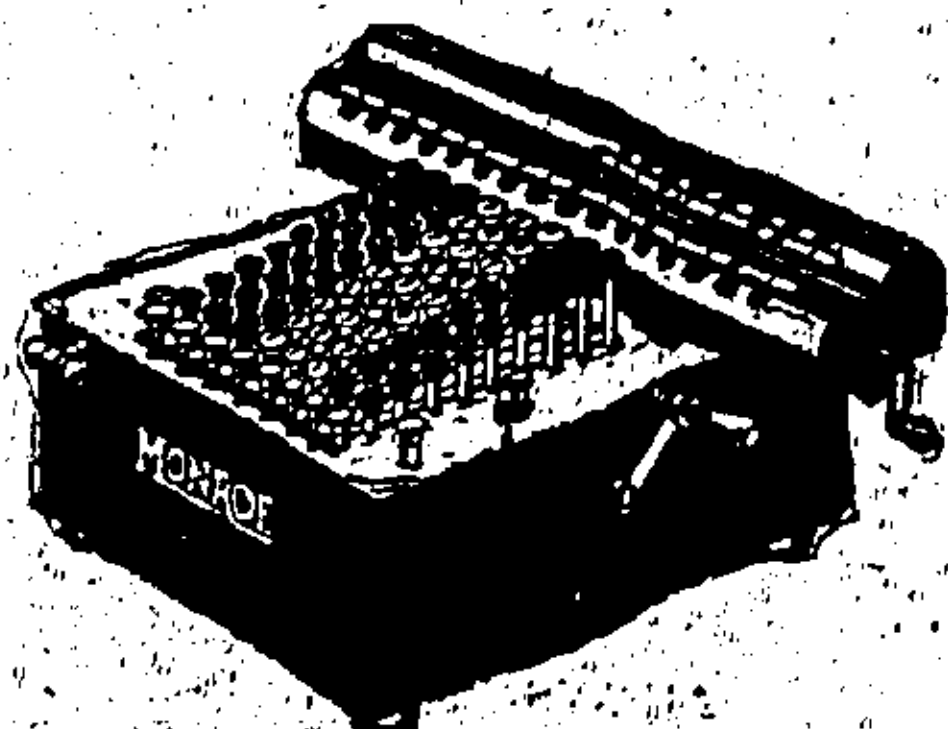
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RUSSIAN CRISIS.

"BOLSHEVISM TOTTERING"

M. Alexander Gutchkov, the founder of the October party, was President of the Third Duma, Minister of the first Russian Revolutionary Government, and probably the ablest party politician in his country has produced a brief interview to the *Daily Telegraph* correspondent. As M. Gutchkov has been in closest personal contact with any other man with the commanders of the forces operating against the Red Government, and also with the *Entente* statesmen who are supporting their efforts, his opinions have special value at the present moment, when the power of Bolshevism seems to be tottering to its fall.

"Before I deal with other aspects of the situation," said M. Gutchkov, "I must lay special stress on our indebtedness to Great Britain. Without your help the successes which we have gained against the Bolsheviks would have been impossible. It would be idle to deny that many of my influential countrymen have lost faith in the earnestness and sincerity of the *Entente* opposition to Bolshevism, and I have heard very bitter words from them with regard to the part which Great Britain has recently played in our affairs. But I always ask them where we should have been without British assistance. It is true that your help has not always been given promptly, and that it has sometimes not been adequate to the needs of the situation, but I am never tired of insisting that it has, nevertheless, made all the difference, and that without it our armies would not have been able to keep the field at all against those of the Soviet Republic."

BOLSHEVISM'S DAYS NUMBERED.

"You ask me what, in my opinion, are the present prospects of the military operations against the Bolsheviks? My own view is that the days of Bolshevism are numbered, and that next spring, at the latest, we shall witness its downfall. Our cause is prospering best on the southern front, where a serious setback is no longer to be feared. Thanks to your people, who have supplied General Denikin with arms and equipment for half a million men, the Southern Army is now a well-organized, stable, and efficient fighting force. That its advent is really welcomed by the population in the territory occupied by it is clear from the experience of Kharkov, where 40,000 volunteers flocked to its standard. General Denikin is thus freed from the disagreeable necessity of having to resort to conscription, which is always unpopular measures. There were well-founded hopes that he would succeed in reaching Moscow this year, but they are no longer very strong. He has now to fight against geographical and climatic conditions, which are much more formidable than the Bolshevik generalship. Until the spring, operations will be possible only along the lines of roads, and sweeping cavalry movements will be out of the question. Moreover, the vast distances in the region of the wrecked railways, which it is impossible to repair, render the work of supply very difficult."

Admiral Kolchak's position is not nearly so promising. His army is essentially a peasant one, and more subject to disintegrating influences than that of Denikin's. He is also short of officers. However, his situation seems to have improved somewhat recently, and, of course, he constitutes an important factor in the general military problem. The Archangel front is, for the present, a purely secondary and defensive one, and would acquire primary significance only in connection with decided successes elsewhere.

That hangs to the most complicated and problematical feature of the present situation, the operations of the Northern and North-Western fronts. The idea of forming a Northern front was worked out on Denikin's Staff. As a result of consultations with our military chiefs and the statesmen of the *Entente*, a fourfold plan was evolved. It would be inopportune to state where its various contingents originated, but they were as follows:

- (1)—The supply of arms and equipment, which was eventually taken over by Great Britain;
- (2)—Food, both for the army and for the liberated population, for which the Americans made themselves responsible;
- (3)—An anti-Bolshevik coalition of the Baltic States, which was to group itself round the Northern Army;
- (4)—The recruiting of troops among two million Russian soldiers in the prisoners' camps of the Central Empires.

JUDENITCH'S CHANCES.

"The first of these four desiderata is only now in process of full realization, and it may be said that the numbers and strength of Judenitch's army are limited only by the equipment and supplies available. When he commenced his recent unsuccessful advance on Petrograd he had more than twice the number of well-trained and high-spirited troops than he was actually able to put into the fighting line. The lacking equipment is, however, now arriving, and it is possible that he may make a second attack with much better chances of success. Foodstuffs were also concentrated by the Americans in convenient harbours, but the quantity was not sufficient, and they have now nearly all been consumed. Owing to local political complications, the coalition of the Baltic States was but imperfectly realized, and its future effectiveness will depend largely on immediate developments in that region. The proposal to recruit troops in the prisoners' camps had to encounter a good deal of difference of opinion. It was thought in some quarters that it would be dangerous to rely on these men, who had long been subject to the demoralizing influences of prison life, and had also, to some extent, been exposed to German propaganda. In the end, it was decided to take no official action in the prisoners' camps, and the plan was done there was the result of private initiative. One of the most active of the private recruiters was Colonel Bermond, and it will perhaps be advisable to give some details of the circumstances in which his army was formed. When the Central Empires broke there was still in existence a so-called Russian Northern Anti-Bolshevik army, formed by Count Keller, who was killed at Kieff. Like the Don army of Krasnov, it depended on German encouragement and support. When the German revolution came it

then numbered about 8,000 men—it dissolved and scattered, but three small units retained their coherence. These were the bodies commanded by Prince Lieven, Colonel Bermond, and Colonel Virovitch. Prince Lieven's corps eventually joined up with the army of Judenitch, but the other two settled down in Latvia, with Mitau as their main centre.

GERMAN AND POLISH VIEW.

"It is at this point that the Germans enter into the problem as a complicating factor. It would be a mistake, though a pardonable one, to suspect the German Government of complicity with the support given to Bermond. This has been entirely the work of certain captains in industry and prominent military leaders. These people realised that Spartanism was the child of Bolshevism, if not identical with it, and that the outbreak of disorder in Berlin and Munich were organized and financed from Moscow. They argued that the best way to deal with the Red peril was to attack it at its source, and as Bermond was very uncompromising in his hostility to Bolshevism, they decided to back him up. At the same time, they kept the strings of the purse in their own hands. The industrialists provided the funds, and the military men did the work. Bermond's force was well clothed, equipped and supplied, but received allowances only for a few days in advance. Still, it was in this respect a great contrast to the ragged, ill-equipped troops of Judenitch, and very few of the Russian soldiers who were on their way to join the latter actually got beyond Mitau. There were other very important inducements to throw in their lot with Bermond. His contingent had been long on the spot, and had learned how to make life comfortable there. The German soldiers have parcelled out the Crown domains among themselves, have cultivated the land, and have their own flocks and herds. They have entered into very profitable dealings with the natives. They have established saw-mills to convert the State forests into timber, for which they find a good market. In short, they have set up a State within a State, and nearly all of them have vested interests in it. That is the reason of their reluctance to return to the uncertainties of life in Germany."

The situation thus created is a very dangerous one. The Germans, not actuated by political opinions in the ordinary sense, what they are out for is their own well-being and comfort. Undoubtedly they are at the disposal of the highest bidder. At the order of the *Entente* the German Government has already taken very drastic action to compel them to return home. The extreme possible pressure is, however, only likely to bring some 500 of the finest soldiers of them back to subordination. The rest will stay where they are. They are well provided with arms and ammunition, and if their food supplies are stopped they will live on the natives. It would be difficult to exaggerate the dangers of a formidable and well-trained body of freebooters of this kind, wandering at large in the northern lands between the Bolshevik front and the rest of Europe. Surely it is not impossible to devise some means by which these men, who have been recruited to fight Bolshevism, and are able to do so, should be used for the purpose which we all have in common, instead of becoming a scourge to the innocent population that we desire to liberate finally from the sufferings of war."

In reply to questions as to the step which should be taken as soon as Bolshevism is overthrown, M. Gutchkov said: "Personally, I am a Monarchist—a Constitutional Monarchist—but I should consider it a crime to attempt to govern Russia in opposition to the wishes of the majority of the nation. The National Assembly must decide by that form Russia is to be governed. Such an Assembly cannot, of course, be summoned in an instant. Even after Moscow and Petrograd are occupied, centres of Bolshevik resistance are certain to survive in many parts of the country, and until they are stamped out it would be hopeless to expect fair and free elections. In favourable circumstances, however, the interregnum should not last more than a few months. During that interval the country must be ruled by a military dictatorship. But this dictatorship must be enlightened and benevolent—liberal in every sense of the word. A return to anything like the old conditions is absolutely impossible. The Russian people would not stand that. We shall, no doubt, have a hard struggle to overcome the reactionary influences which, of course, still exist, but I, personally, have no doubt but what, if successful, from my conversations with Kolchak, Denikin, and Judenitch, all of whom I know well, I am convinced that no favour for reactionary ideas is to be feared from them. At the outset they were all merely honest, straightforward soldiers, who loved their country, and knew little of politics. Since that time they have learnt a good deal about politics, and, having begun without prepossessions, they have formed sound views on the subject. Believe me, it would be a great mistake to suppose that any one of them is contemplating the restoration of the old régime. They realise that, whether a Monarchy or a Republic, Russia must, in future, be governed with a view to the welfare and happiness of the great masses of the people, and not in the interests of classes or castes, as in the past."

AGRICULTURAL PROBLEM.

"Undoubtedly, the most important matter which presses for prompt settlement is the agrarian question. Here, I am among those who hold that the land must belong to the peasants. It would be futile to attempt to take back from them the large estates which they have divided among themselves. The utmost that can be done is to induce them to pay something like reasonable compensation to the former owners. Neither in quantity nor kind, however, should the compensation be such as to press heavily on the peasants. Under all circumstances they must be left substantially better off economically than they were before the revolution. If this is done, and if their title to their new holdings is regularized, the issue of land of death. I believe that the question of compensation will present no insuperable difficulties. The splitting up of the large estates will mean considerable detriment to the economic position of the country as a whole. (Continued at foot of next column.)"

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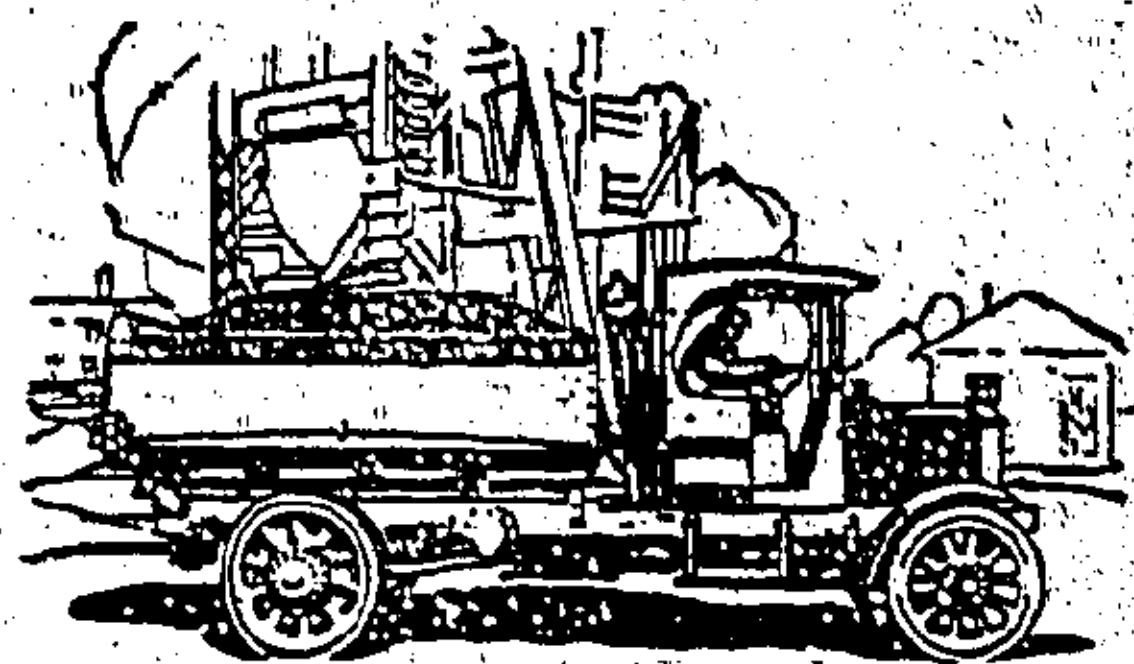
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[1702]

whole, but the political benefits will much more than counter-balance that. One exception, however, I should make to the division of land among the peasants. That would be in the case of certain of the large estates which have been specially organized for the production of sugar. Here I should retain a compact mass of sufficient size to guarantee efficiency of working and a maximum of production. If this were not done, the population as a whole—and the poor as much as the rich—would suffer quite out of proportion to the advantage gained by a few individuals. "The future, Russia must be a peasant State, owned by peasants, and governed by peasants. My own conviction is that a Constitutional Monarchy will be the best form of government, but if the majority of the population is in

favour of a Republic, I am prepared to abide by its decision.

Finally, there is the vexed question of the border States. In the case of only two of these can there be any question of complete independence. They are, of course, Poland and Finland. But the frontiers which shall separate these two States from the new Russia have yet to be settled. As for the Ukraine, Esthonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, it can only be said that just as Russia cannot live without them, they too cannot live without Russia. They must, however, be granted the very fullest measure of local autonomy that is consistent with fundamental national unity. May it be in this way that they must be granted fuller autonomy than your country is willing to concede to Ireland!"

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